



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

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GILEAD'S TOWN HALL RECEIVES REPAIR DOLLARS FROM USDA

Lincoln, Neb., July 30, 2002--The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development announces the funding of \$6,400 in grant funds to the Village of Gilead. The funds will be leveraged with local donations to provide for needed repairs to the Town Hall/Community Center, which serves the 40 rural residents of the Village.

"The town hall/community center is vital to this community," stated Janice Stopak, rural development specialist for Nebraska USDA Rural Development. "It is the only facility in Gilead that can house the Village office, and be used for elections, basketball games, family reunions, town meetings, community gatherings, group meetings and the like."

Proposed repairs include the installation of a new metal roof and siding to replace the deteriorated shingled roof and wood siding. The improvements are vital to the protection of the interior of the facility from the weather's elements and will provide a long-term, low-maintenance solution to the facility's upkeep.

USDA Rural Development is a credit arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture serving the needs of rural communities unable to secure acceptable credit elsewhere, to help them finance needed facilities. In some cases, USDA Rural Development guarantees repayment of loans made by private lenders.

The grant funds were provided through the USDA Rural Development Community Facility Grant Program. For additional information contact Janice Stopak at 6030 South 58th Street Suite B, Lincoln, NE 68516 or phone (402) 423-9683, (402) 437-5093 (TDY). Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

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